

Message Text

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PAGE 01 BRUSSE 02239 131921Z

67

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-02 INR-07 L-02

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 /057 W

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R 131747Z MAR 75

FM AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3391

INFO AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY LONDON

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE BRUSSELS 2239

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINT, BE

SUBJECT: TINDEMANS GOVERNMENT TO ACT ON LINGUISTIC ISSUE

REF: BRUSSELS 02140

1. PRIME MINISTER TINDEMANS, IN ANSWER TO QUESTIONS
IN SENATE MARCH 13 ON DOMESTIC LINGUISTIC ISSUE
AT SCHAERBEEK REPORTED REFTEL, SAID GOVERNMENT WOULD
REFER QUESTIONS TO COUNCIL OF STATE ON URGENT BASIS
AND DOUBTED THAT COUNCIL COULD IGNORE ALMOST
UNANIMOUS DECISION TAKEN BY LINGUISTIC COMMISSION
THAT SCHAERBEEK'S SYTEM WAS IN CONTRADICTION WITH
1963 LINGUISTIC LAW. IN MEANTIME HE SAID GOVERNMENT
THROUGH PROVINCIAL GOVERNOR WOULD TAKE ACTION AGAINST
ANY OTHER COMMUNE WHICH ATTEMPTED INSTITUTE SEPARATE
FACILITIES FOR FRANCOPHONE AND FLEMISH RESIDENTS.

2. DECISION IN HOUSE INTERIOR COMMISSION OF
RESOLUTION ON THIS QUESTION POSTPONED TO MARCH 13.
RESULT OF THIS VOTE NOT YET KNOWN.

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COMMENT: TINDEMANS'S STATEMENT, WHICH OBVIOUSLY

REFLECTS AGREEMENT OBTAINED IN COUNCIL MINISTER'S
MEETING REPORTED REFTEL, WILL HAVE EFFECT OF PUTTING
DAMPER ON EXPLOSIVE LINGUISTIC ISSUE. HOWEVER, REMAINS
TO BE SEEN IF PLANNED DEMONSTRATION AGAINST SCHAEERBEEK'S
SYSTEM MARCH 16 WHICH HAS BEEN BANNED WILL TAKE PLACE.
IF DEMONSTRATION IS HELD AND MILITANTS CLASH WITH
POLICE, PARLIAMENTARY CONFRONTATION COULD FLARE UP
AGAIN IN COMING WEEK.FIRESTONE

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05 JUL 2006

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To: STATE
Type: TE
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